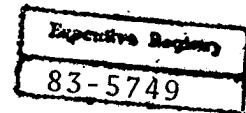


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28 November 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Covert Action Review Group

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

1. Thanks for your response to my request for concise information about what the group is doing, how well it is doing, and how it might do better.
2. I am familiar with the work of this group, read its reports carefully, and find it a very useful and reassuring contribution. Both the DDCI and I read them carefully and use them as an occasion to reconsider the programs authorized and under way. Should there be a more formal process for this purpose?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "WJ Casey".

William J. Casey

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Jim Taylor does not believe that the CARG members, with the exception of Bob Gates, are well enough informed to make formal recommendations. He found the papers submitted by DO offices of little value. I say here that he would meet with the DCI not because he said so, but because this seems like a reasonable way to tell the DCI thanks for asking us if we want to become involved, while recognizing that he may not have been serious.

You can gauge Bob Gates reaction to the CARG by his actions there and otherwise when commenting on CA. My hunch is he likes the exposure, believes the DI has a role; whether he is

question (?)

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